

HELP FOR THE WOMEN.

CHARLOTTE SMITH AND THE WORKERS OF HER SEX.

She is Now One of the Most Prominent Women in Washington and is the President of the Woman's National Industrial League.

[Special Correspondence.]
WASHINGTON, July 7.—One of the best known women in America is Mrs. Charlotte Smith of this city, president of the Woman's National Industrial League. She is one of the noted characters of Washington. There is not a senator or member of the house or public man of any station whatever who does not know her. A great majority of the prominent men of the



CHARLOTTE SMITH AS A WORKING WOMAN. Country, whether they have been in Washington or not, have met her. She is in many respects one of the most remarkable women of her time—of phenomenal mental and physical vigor, strong in individuality, persistent in purpose, adroit, skillful and untiring in action.

Ten years ago she came to Washington as the most advantageous point from which to carry on her life work—a self imposed task—nothing less than the protection and advancement of working women. She was among the first to foresee the great part which women were to play industrially, and she early perceived that in the nature of things their pathway would not be strewn with roses; that they would be underpaid and overworked; that they would be discriminated against simply because they were women, and that wicked men would attempt to take advantage of their sex, their necessities and their weaknesses. Mrs. Smith set out to champion the cause of working women at the capital, and everywhere, and she has nobly held to her work amid all sorts of discouragements, sneers, insults and rebuffs.

A positive, plain spoken woman, the foe of corruption in high places and of evil everywhere, a woman who believes that the devil must be fought with fire, she has enemies. Some men hate her for the good she has done, in doing which she has interfered with their little plans. Others misunderstand her and unthinkingly join in the hue and cry against her. But she has not permitted herself to be disturbed or her work to be interfered with by these attacks. Alone, with rare fortitude and a courage which only a woman who has baffled the world can appreciate, she

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